"I have on hand a practical illustration of the difficulties which I have brought to the notice of hon. Members. We are placing starred questions before the House at the rate of eight questions for each hon. Member who has addressed such questions. We shall probably sit for five days at the most this month, and that means that each hon. Member will have as a maximum 40 starred questions answered in the course of this meeting. It has been calculated that more than 60 or 70 questions in all answers to which have already been received in the office will have to be carried forward to the next meeting because the maximum would otherwise be exceeded, and the maximum cannot be exceeded without disappointing hon. Members who desire to put supplementary questions. As I have already stated, hon. Members will have to decide in such cases whether they will carry over their questions to the next meeting to be answered orally or whether they will allow the answers to their questions to be included in the official report of the last day of this meeting."

(ii)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924*—

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other Member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a Member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other Member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Agency.

Alleged arrest of one Sunder Narayan Deo in the Vizagapatam Agency.

*1 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he is cognizant of the recent arrest of Sunder Narayan Deo and some others of Kalyanasingpur in the Vizagapatam Agency ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that Sunder Narayan Deo is a claimant to the estate of Kalyanasingpur and whether he is in actual possession thereof ;

(*c*) at whose instance and under what authority the said arrests were made ;

(*d*) whether the Maharaja of Jeypore claims possession of the estate of Kalyanasingpur ;

(*e*) whether the Agent to the Governor or any of those working under him in the Agency have arrested Sunder Narayan Deo and others with a view to secure forcible possession of the estate for the Maharaja ; and

(*f*) whether the Maharaja has sought Government intervention of any sort ?

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A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) & (*d*) Singapur is the chief village of a subdivision of Jeypore which was granted by Raja Vikrama Deo II to a kinsman on service tenure. In 1864 the then Raja sued the grantee's son Krishna Deo for the possession of the property or an annual payment of Rs. 5,000. It was decreed that the Rs. 5,000 should be paid and this decree was upheld by the High Court and the Privy Council. After Krishna Deo's death, the Jeypore Maharaja brought a suit against Krishna Deo's widow for the possession of the property or the enhancement of the quit-rent; the suit was decided in the Maharaja's favour in the original court and in the High Court and the property was handed over to the Maharaja in 1892. Krishna Deo had an illegitimate son Gopinath Deo; Sundaranarayana Deo is the legitimate son of Gopinath Deo. The Maharaja appointed Gopinath Deo as a supervisor of the estate and at the time of his death the latter was in receipt of a salary of Rs. 250 a month as well as a "Bhallaloko" allowance. Although the estate has been in the possession of the Maharaja since 1892, Sundaranarayana Deo has now attempted to obtain possession of it by gathering followers among the Khonds and collected the rents.

(*c*) The arrests were made by the Agent to the Governor under the Ganjam and Vizagapatam Act, 1839.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) The Maharaja had complained to the Agent to the Governor regarding the actions of Sundaranarayana Deo and his brother.

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—"Sir, I wish to ask the hon. the Law Member whether this is a dispute as to possession of property."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Yes, which may lead to a breach of the peace."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—"In which case, will not the Government be better advised to ask the Maharaja to seek redress under section 145 of the Criminal Procedure Code?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The Maharaja is presumably aware of the necessity, if a dispute really arises in regard to the possession of the estate, to do so."

Civil Justice.

Alleged grievances of Judicial copyists.

* 2 *Q.*—Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN: With reference to the answer to question No. 1439, dated 6th December 1924, regarding a memorial from the Civil Court copyists, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a copy of the memorial submitted by the Judicial copyists to the hon. the High Court of Judicature has since been received by him and the original by the Government from the High Court;